(b) to (d) The issue is under active consideration of the Planning Commission and, therefore, specific details are not available with the Ministry.

Shortage of skilled labourers for infrastructure sector

2595. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shortage of skilled labourers is felt in the sectors of infrastructure and industry and the same is affecting the growth of the vital sectors of the economy;

(b) if so, whether any measures are being taken to overcome the said shortages;

(c) if so, the details of the measures taken/proposed to be taken; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Ministry of Labour and Employment has not carried out any specific survey of shortage of skilled labourers and its impact on sectors of infrastructure and industry. However, in the context of faster economic growth, there is always a need to equip entrants to the labour force with necessary skills.

(b) to (d) Government has taken up the following steps to improve supply of skilled workforce:-

(i) Upgradation of 500 Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs)—100 with domestic funding and 400 with World Bank assistance.

(ii) Upgradation of the remaining 1396 Government ITIs through Public Private Partnership mode.

(iii) Establishment of new ITIs and strengthening of existing ITIs in the North Eastern States, Sikkim and J&K.

(iv) Imparting of short term modular employable skills under the scheme "Skill Development Initiative".

In addition, it has also been decided to set up a National Skill Development Mission under which 1500 more ITIs and 50,000 Skill Development Centres are planned in Public Private Partnership mode.

Youth registered in employment exchanges

2596. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of youth registered in employment exchanges in every States;

(b) how many of them are in below the degree level and how many are above degree level; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to solve the employment problem?